

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 00015 021441Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-04 EURE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00

INR-07 INRE-00 L-02 A-01 SSO-00 /029 W
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O R 021405Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6776

INFO SECDEF

USCINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

CHJUSMAGG

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, GR, US, ASEC

SUBJ: MARINE SECURITY GUARD INCIDENT

1. SUMMARY. ATHENS DAILIES JANUARY REPORTED INCIDENT OF ATTEMPTED RAPE ON DECEMBER 31 OF 10 YEAR OLD GREEK GIRL BY AMERICAN EMBASSY MARINE GUARD AS MAJOR NEWS ITEM. PRESENTATION VARIED FROM FRONTPAGE EXPLOITATION BY ACROPOLIS TO BRIEF BACKPAGE NEWS STORY IN KATHIMERINI.

2. HEADLINES OF ABOUT HALF A.M. PAPERS WERE STRAIGHTFORWARD WHILE OTHERS, MAINLY LEFTIST PRESS, PLAYED UP ANTI-AMERICAN ANGLE. AMONG FORMER ARE: KATHIMERINI WHICH HEADLINED "DRUNKEN AMERICAN SAILOR MALTREATS TEN YEAR OLD GIRL;" TO VIMA, ALSO BACKPAGE, "EMBASSY MARINE ATTEMPTED TO RAPE TEN YEAR OLD SCHOOL GIRL" AND COSMOS, INSIDE PAGE, "ENTERING THROUGH WINDOW, AMERICAN MARINE ATTEMPTED TO RAPE TEN YEAR OLD IN HER ROOM; HE FAILED, BRUISING HER LIGHTLY ONLY; ARRESTED LATER ON." ON MORE EXPLOITATIVE FRONT, ACROPOLIS CARRIED LARGE, FRONTPAGE STORY UNDER "AMERICAN SATYR ATTACKS TEN YEAR OLD GIRL WHILE ASLEEP AND BRUTALLY TORTURES HER." COMMUNIST RIZOPASTIS, BACKPAGE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WROTE: "LAST NIGHT IN ATHENIAN APARTMENT MOST IMPERTINENT

ATTEMPT OF RAPE OF TEN YEAR OLD GIRL BY AMERICAN
MARINE--ASSAILANT SERVES IN EMBASSY" AND AVGHI, ALSO BACKPAGE,
"YANKEE ATTEMPTS RAPE OF TEN YEAR OLD GIRL."

3. AFTERNOON PRESS FEATURED STORY WITH PHOTO OF ACCUSED
MAN -- FOUR OF FIVE PAPERS -- AND WITH SPECULATION ON ADDED
ANGLES OF STORY SUCH AS EXTRATERRITORIALITY (SIC) AND MARINE'S
MOTIVES. VRADYNI'S FRONT PAGE STORY, UNDER PHOTO OF
SANCHEZ, WAS HEADLINED: "THE MARINE WHO MALTREATED
LITTLE GIRL - LET HIM NOT ESCAPE TOO. HE HAS BEEN PASSED TO
AMERICANS FOR DETENTION BUT HE WILL BE TRIED IN GREECE".
VRADYNI POINTEDLY IDENTIFIED ACCUSED AS BODYGUARD TO THE
AMBASSADOR AND ALSO CONCLUDED THAT ACCUSED COULD NOT HAVE
BEEN DRUNK AND STILL ACCOMPLISHED CLIMB INTO VICTIM'S
BEDROOM. APOYEMATINI RAN CAPTION UNDER FRONTPAGE
PHOTO: "THE AMERICAN WHO CONFUSED ATHENS WITH NEW YORK"
AND THE HEADLINE: "THE AMERICAN SATYR IS MEMBER OF THE
EMBASSY AND THUS HE IS COVERED BY EXTRATERRITORIALITY."
ATHINAIKI PICTURED ACCUSED WITH CAPTION: "HERE HE IS -
T. SANCHEZ, THE BEAST." NEA CAPTIONED PROMINENT THREE
COLUMN BACKPAGE STORY WITH: "AMERICAN MARINE CONFESSED
ATTEMPT TO RAPE WITHOUT ANY TRACES OF TROUBLED CONSCIENCE."
KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PERSONNEL, CRIMES, SEXUAL DEVIATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ATHENS00015
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750002-0536
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750183/aaaacuzn.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <02 JUN 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARINE SECURITY GUARD INCIDENT
TAGS: ASEC, AFSP, MILI, OGEN, (SANCHEZ, TELESFORD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006